UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/705,181	11/10/2003	Ian D. Hegerty	600189-061	4662

61834   7590   09/20/2007

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/705,181	HEGERTY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ranodhi Serrao	2141	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>25 July 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>2-12,14,15,17-21 and 24</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>2-12,14,15,17-21 and 24</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 25 July

2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 25 July 2007 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive. The applicant argued in substance the newly added limitations of

independent claim 24. However, the cited prior art of record continue to teach these and

the added features.

3.   The applicant stated various reasons to show how Pitkow et al. fails to teach the

limitations of amended independent claim 24 and argued,

> Accordingly, Applicants assert that independent claim 24, as amended, is neither taught nor
> suggested by Wilson, Zha or Pitkow, either alone or in combination, and respectfully request
> withdrawal of the rejection regarding the same.

4.   The examiner respectfully disagrees since Zha et al. teaches the added

limitations of claim 24. Specifically, Zha et al. teaches analyzing inlinks to the

augmented set of hosts to assign a countrytag to a global host when all of the following

three tests are true: there are more than a first predetermined number of unique

inlinking hosts from the same country code top-level domain (see Zha et al., col. 9, line

23-col. 10, line 7) a particular country code top-level domain accounts for more than a

second predetermined signal of the non-global unique inlinking hosts (see Zha et al.,

col. 10, lines 8-47), and the number of inlinking hosts from a particular country is more

than a predetermined threshold value (see Zha et al., col. 10, line 48-col. 11, line 67).

And Pitkow et al. teaches a predetermined percentage (see Pitkow et al., col. 7, lines

20-34). Therefore the cited references teach the invention as claimed.

5.   The applicant further remarked,

> Applicants also assert that there is no motivation to combine Wilson and Zha with Pitkow. The
> rationale that the Examiner provides ("providing the user with a 'substitute' bookmark when a
> preferred document is unavailable (see Pitkow at al., ¶ 102)") is insufficient as independent claim
> 24 is directed toward a method of determining a countrytag for a website on a network. Providing
> the user with a substitute bookmark when a preferred document is unavailable, as the Examiner
> suggests, fails to provide the requisite motivation to combine Wilson, Zha and Pitkow, as this
> result is unrelated to determining a countrytag for a website on a network, as claimed by
> independent claim 24.

6.   The examiner points out that it has been held that a prior art reference must

either be in the field of applicant's endeavor or, if not, then be reasonably pertinent to

the particular problem with which the applicant was concerned, in order to be relied

upon as a basis for rejection of the claimed invention. See In re Oetiker, 977 F.2d 1443,

24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, all of the references are pertinent to

the particular problem with which the applicant is concerned. Particularly, Wilson et al.

relates to assigning a countrytag to each country host that corresponds to the country-

related domain, see Wilson et al., ¶ 60-64. Pitkow et al. relates to analyzing inlinks to

and outlinks from global hosts, see Pitkow et al., ¶ 20. And Zha et al. relates to

determining countrytags for global hosts, see Zha et al., col. 10, lines 8-29. Therefore,

the combination of the cited references is proper, and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. is

maintained. See below rejections.

7.   In conclusion, upon taking the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claims,

the cited references teach all of the claimed limitations. And the rejections are

reaffirmed. See below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

9.   Claims 2-4, 7, 9, 11, 20-21, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Wilson et al. (2005/0114484), Pitkow et al. (2002/0016786), and Zha

et al. (7,028,027).

10.   As per claim 24, Zha et al. teaches analyzing one or more inlinks to at least one

global host from the set of global host to determine a countrytag for the at least one

global host (see Zha et al., col. 10, lines 8-29); and producing an augmented set of

hosts that includes the set of country hosts, the at least one global host, and the

corresponding countrytags for each country host and the at least one global host (see

Zha et al., col. 10, lines 30-47); summing unique inlinking hosts and outlinking hosts in

the augmented set (see Zha et al., col. 12, lines 1-29); and analyzing inlinks to the

augmented set of hosts to assign a countrytag to a global host when all of the following

three tests are true: there are more than a first predetermined number of unique

inlinking hosts from the same country code top-level domain (see Zha et al., col. 9, line

23-col. 10, line 7) a particular country code top-level domain accounts for more than a

second predetermined signal of the non-global unique inlinking hosts (see Zha et al.,

col. 10, lines 8-47), and the number of inlinking hosts from a particular country is more

than a predetermined threshold value (see Zha et al., col. 10, line 48-col. 11, line 67).

And Pitkow et al. teaches a predetermined percentage (see Pitkow et al., col. 7, lines

20-34). But fail to teach a method of determining a countrytag for a website on a

network, comprising: identifying a set of country hosts for a plurality of websites, each

country host having a country-related domain; assigning a countrytag to each country

host that corresponds to the country-related domain for the respective country host;

identifying a set of global hosts for a plurality of websites, each global host not having a

country-related domain. However, Wilson et al. teaches a method of determining a

countrytag for a website on a network (see Wilson et al., page 7, claim 1), comprising:

identifying a set of country hosts for a plurality of websites, each country host having a

country-related domain (see Wilson et al., ¶ 65-70); assigning a countrytag to each

country host that corresponds to the country-related domain for the respective country

host (see Wilson et al., ¶ 60-64); identifying a set of global hosts for a plurality of

websites, each global host not having a country-related domain (see Wilson et al., ¶

11). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify Zha et al. and Pitkow et al. to a method of determining a countrytag

for a website on a network, comprising: identifying a set of country hosts for a plurality

of websites, each country host having a country-related domain; assigning a countrytag

to each country host that corresponds to the country-related domain for the respective

country host; identifying a set of global hosts for a plurality of websites, each global host

not having a country-related domain in order to add more domain name options to the

current domain system (see Wilson et al., ¶ 11).

11.   As per claims 2-4 and 20-21, the above-mentioned motivation of claim 24 applies

fully in order to combine Zha et al., Pitkow et al., and Wilson et al.

12.   As per claim 2, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach a method,

wherein the country-related domain is a top-level domain (see Wilson et al., ¶ 24).

13.   As per claim 3, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach a method, further

comprising: crawling the network to gather information about the pages or sites in the

network, including the top-level domain and connectivity of the crawled sites (see

Wilson et al., ¶ 39: wherein searching serves the function of crawling).

14.   As per claim 4, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach a method,

wherein the network is the Internet (see Wilson et al., ¶ 27).

15.   As per claim 7, Wilson et al. Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but Wilson et al. and Zha et al. fail to teach a method of

analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at least one global host. However, Pitkow et al.

teaches a method of analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at least one global host

(see Pitkow et al., ¶ 20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method of

analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at least one global host in order to build up a

relevance profile for each individual and/or group and map that profile in accordance

with a determined relevance model to collection content (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 120).

16.   As per claim 9, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but Wilson et al. and Zha et al. fail to teach a method,

wherein the predetermined number is 10. However, Pitkow et al. teaches a method,

wherein the predetermined number is 10 (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 118). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method, wherein the predetermined number is 10 in

order to provide more directly relevant search results to that particular user (see Pitkow

et al., ¶ 119).

17.   As per claim 11, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but Wilson et al. and Zha et al. fail to teach a method of

wherein said analyzing comprises determining whether a root or default document page

for the at least one global host exists in one and only one ODP country section.

However, Pitkow et al. teaches a method of wherein said analyzing comprises

determining whether a root or default document page for the at least one global host

exists in one and only one ODP country section. (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 118). It would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method of wherein said analyzing comprises

determining whether a root or default document page for the at least one global host

exists in one and only one ODP country section in order to provide more directly

relevant search results to that particular user (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 119).

18.   As per claim 20, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach a method,

wherein a different test is used to determine if a website should be assigned a "US"

countrytag than is used for assigning countrytags of non-US countries (see Wilson et

al., ¶ 9).

19.   As per claim 21, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach a method,

wherein a website can be assigned more than one countrytag (see Wilson et al., ¶ 82).

20.   Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. as applied to claim 24 above, and further in

view of Schuetze et al. (6,941,321).

21.   As per claim 5, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above, but fail to teach a method, wherein the network is an

intranet. However, Schuetze et al. teaches a method, wherein the network is an intranet

(see Schuetze et al., col. 10, lines 9-18). It would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Pitkow et al.,

and Zha et al. to a method, wherein the network is an intranet to serve a company's

internal purposes (see Schuetze et al., col. 1, lines 35-40).

22.   As per claim 6, Wilson et al., Pitkow et al., and Zha et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above, and furthermore Wilson et al. teaches a method wherein

said analyzing comprises at least on country host from the set of country hosts (see

Wilson et al., ¶ 60-70). But fails to teach analyzing one or more inlinks. However,

Schuetze et al. teaches analyzing one or more inlinks (see Schuetze et al., col. 2, lines

43-56). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention to modify Zha et al., Pitkow et al., and Wilson et al. to analyzing one or

more inlinks in order to advantageously employ a framework to enhance browsing,

searching, retrieving and recommending content in a collection of documents (see

Schuetze et al., col. 5, lines 43-47).

23.   Claims 10, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Wilson et al., Zha et al., Schuetze et al., and Pitkow et al.

24.   As per claim 10, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but fail to teach a method, wherein the predetermined

percentage is 60%. However, Schuetze et al. teaches a method, wherein the

predetermined percentage is 60% (see Schuetze et al., col. 29, line 54-col. 30, line 7:

wherein it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to change the predetermined percentage). It would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and

Pitkow et al. to a method, wherein the predetermined percentage is 60% in order for

quantitatively representing users in a user population, quantitatively determining

similarity between users, clustering users according to those similarities, and visually

representing clusters of users by analogy to clusters of documents (see Schuetze et al.,

abstract).

25.   As per claim 14, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but fail to teach a method, wherein the first predetermined

percentage is 40%. However, Schuetze et al. teaches a method, wherein the first

predetermined percentage is 40% (see Schuetze et al., col. 29, line 54-col. 30, line 7:

wherein it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention

to change the predetermined percentage). It would have been obvious to one having

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and

Pitkow et al. to a method, wherein the first predetermined percentage is 40% in order for

quantitatively representing users in a user population, quantitatively determining

similarity between users, clustering users according to those similarities, and visually

representing clusters of users by analogy to clusters of documents (see Schuetze et al.,

abstract).

26.   As per claim 15, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claim 24 above but fail to teach a method, wherein the second

predetermined percentage is 32%. However, Schuetze et al. teaches a method, wherein

the second predetermined percentage is 32% (see Schuetze et al., col. 29, line 54-col.

30, line 7: wherein it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to change the predetermined percentage). It would have been obvious to one

having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et

al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, wherein the second predetermined percentage is

32% in order for quantitatively representing users in a user population, quantitatively

determining similarity between users, clustering users according to those similarities,

and visually representing clusters of users by analogy to clusters of documents (see

Schuetze et al., abstract).

27.   Claims 12 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and

further in view of Lakritz (6,526,426).

28.   As per claim 12, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method wherein said analyzing comprises

determining whether the at least one global host is marked for manual countrytagging.

However, Lakritz teaches a method wherein said analyzing comprises determining

whether the at least one global host is marked for manual countrytagging (see Lakritz,

col. 4, lines 27-38). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at

the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method wherein said

analyzing comprises determining whether the at least one global host is marked for

manual countrytagging in order to allow the most appropriate language of a requested

document to be served to a Web browser (see Lakritz, col. 15, lines 59-61).

29.   As per claim 19, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claim 24 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: determining a countrytag

for a web subsite. However, Lakritz teaches a method, further comprising determining a

countrytag for a web subsite (see Lakritz, col. 6, lines 28-42). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method, further comprising determining a countrytag for

a web subsite in order to allow a multilingual web site to be built incrementally (see

Lakritz, col. 6, lines 14-18).

30.   Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. as applied to claims 24 and 7 above, and further in view of Page (6,285,999).

31.   As per claim 17, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned limitations of claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host suggests that country. However, Page teaches a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host suggests that country (see Page, col. 9, lines 15-22). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host suggests that country in order to provide a document ranking method that is scalable and can be applied to extremely large databases such as the world wide web (see Page, col. 2, lines 39-50).

32.   As per claim 18, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned limitations of claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an IP address of the host is in that country. However, Page teaches a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an IP address of the host is in that country (see Page, col. 9, lines 15-22). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an

IP address of the host is in that country in order to provide a document ranking method

that is scalable and can be applied to extremely large databases such as the world wide

web (see Page, col. 2, lines 39-50).

33.   Claim 8 has similar limitations as to claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-15, 18-21, and 24

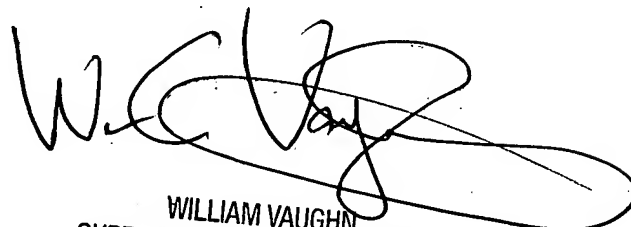above; therefore, they are being rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ranodhi Serrao whose telephone number is (571)272-7967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571)272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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9/4/2007

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